NEWSITEM CAPTIONED "ONE CRORE STUDENTS CALLED FAILURES EVERY YEARS"

3391. SHRI KRISHAN KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government attention has been drawn to a newsitem captioned "one crore students called failures every year" as reported in the Times of India dated 7-12-93;

(b) if so, whether the existing examination system in the country needs immediate overhaul; and

(c) if so, the reaction of Government in this regard ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The news-item does not mention on what basis it was estimated that about one crore children are branded failures by the examination system every year. The news-item does not also clarify whether it has referred to internal examinations conducted by the schools or public examinations conducted by the Boards of School Education in the country. Reforms in examinations at school stage and higher education stage have been a subject for discussion for long. The National Policy on Education, 1986 stipulated adoption of certain functional measures to recast the examination system. Since the public examinations at secondary and higher secondary stages are conducted by the Boards of School Education. The responsibility for adoption of the examination reform measures rests on them. The role of the Central Government is largely recommendatory and advisory in the matter.

EXCAVATION IN MANSAR, NAGPUR

3392. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Directorate of Archaology is aware about suggestion that there is a possibility of a Buddhist Stupa under a hill in Hansar situated in Ramtela Talug of Nagpur district in Maharashtra ;

(b) what action is being taken on the various proposals made in this matter by a famous Buddhist monk Sursi Sasai ;

(c) whether the Directorate of Archaeology feels that there is at all a possibility of Mansar being a Buddhist site ; and

(d) what sort of excavation work has been done at Mansar and what are its results ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DEPTT. OF EDUCATION AND DEPTT. OF CULTURE) (KUMARI SELJA) : (a) Yes, Sir. Archeological Survey of India, has received a letter from Bouddisatva Nagaarjun Memorial Sanstha, Nagpur, regarding the possibility of a Buddhist Stupa under a hill in Mansar situated in Ramtek Taluk of Nagpur District in Maharashtra.

(b) to (d) The Ancient Buddhist remains at Mansar, Taluk Ramtek, District Nagpur, Maharashtra are centrally protected, preserved and maintained by the Archaeological Survey of India. The site at Mansar has been excavated during 1988-89 by the Department of Ancient Indian History, Culture and Archaeology, Nagpur University, Nagpur ; the excavations revealed a brick structure within an enclosed wall running all along the Mansar Tank and notable antiquities found include pottery, iron and copper objects, carved stone, beads, etc. The antiquities are in the possession of the Archaeological Survey of India.